January 28, 2002

Trumpet Online available at http://www.wartburg.edu/trumpet

T-shirt sales make for orange-mania

By KATIE HARTMAN
Senior Writer

The guys of Residence North 221 have taken a simple but empowering statement and put it on the chest of those who are proud to wear orange.

GO KNIGHTS can be seen on the T-shirts of students, faculty and staff all around the Wartburg campus and Waverly community. These \$6 shirts, compliments of the eight suitemates, have sparked a campus-wide fire of school spirit.

The guys have tossed around this idea since Homecoming, but they just weren't quite sure when to implement it, said junior Alan Banwart. Their inspiration came from the "Hawks Nest," where Hawkeye fans on television appear to be just one big mass of bright yellow. They decided to bring that crowd unity to Knight fans.

The first step consisted of designing the T-shirts.

"We wanted something simple, and we wanted it to be orange," said Banwart. "We were given three samples. When we saw the one with the Knight in the middle, we liked that one the best...it added a little something."

The suitemates purchased 175 T-shirts in their first shipment. "We weren't quite sure they were going to sell, but the next day, we had to order 300 more," said junior Andy Pollock. Between the start of the Jan. 19 women's basketball game against Luther and halftime, the suite sold over 50 T-shirts. So far, they have sold over 600 with 148 still left to sell. They will sell shirts both in their room and at weekend sporting events. The sizes range from children's medium to XXXL.

"This isn't intended to be a money-maker; we just want to make the games a lot of fun," said Pollock. "If we could sell 1,600 shirts to everyone on campus and have them wear them to events, that would be a good deal. As long as people are buying them, we will keep on selling them."

The guys don't plan on keeping the small profit they are making, but they have not yet decided where the money will go

Maybe even more impressive than the T-shirt itself is the organization behind the project. Junior Garrett Rettig developed an Excel spreadsheet that includes the names of the people who preordered a shirt and the sizes of the shirts. With a few simple clicks of the mouse, they can see how many of each size have been sold and base their next shipment on that data.

The suite also transformed their room into an assembly-like atmosphere, complete with a folding counter. Each "customer" must first sign and pay for the T-shirt at one end of the counter and then pick it up (folded and ready for wear) at the other end. This way, they can keep things organized on the nights when the room gets a little crowded and the line goes out the door. Overall, the whole process consists of a lot of time and work.

"We want to stress that the T-shirts weren't just for the

Wartburg/Luther game," said Pollock. "We want everyone to wear them to all events. When everyone in the stands is wearing orange, it creates a hostile environment... it's very intimidating.

"It was fun to see everyone wearing GO KNIGHTS on their shirts and think, we did that," he added.

Advice from the guys of Res 221: WEAR YOUR ORANGE!

Residence 221 suitemates also include juniors Ryan Melin, Dan Schuknecht, Chris Steege, Brad Fasse and Todd Thomas.

GOT ORANGE?—Wartburg students sport their new T-shirts thanks to the guys of Residence North 221. Ben Shanno/TRUMPET

TAKING CARE OF BUSINESS—Junior Alan Banwart sells former Wartburg student Jeff Happe one of the orange GO KNIGHTS T-shirts his suite designed to sell to dedicated Wartburg fans. So far they have sold over 600 and are still selling more.

Heidi Tiedt/TRUMPET





Regents Scholarship standards changed

By KATIE HARTMAN Senior Writer

Wartburg has made a new addition to the Regents Scholarship criteria for the Fall 2002 incoming freshmen.

Students who have a 3.85 or higher GPA, regardless of their class rank or ACT composite score, are now eligible for the Regents Scholarship.

Wartburg is introducing this change to the Fall 2002 freshmen during the Regents Scholarship weekends, said Edie Waldstein, vice president for enrollment management.

The past Regents Scholarship criteria

required high school students to either be in the top 10 percent of their graduating class or be in the top 30 percent of their graduating class and have an ACT composite score of 28 or higher.

Waldstein said the decision to change the criteria came from the observation Doug Bowman, dean of admissions and financial aid, and his staff made and from results of scientific analysis and research of Wartburg's scholarships.

"We noticed that we weren't as competitive with our sister institutions for the top performing students," said Waldstein. "When we looked into it, we found out that other institutions had in their equiva-

lent to a Regents Scholarship a GPA criteria like this."

Bowman and Waldstein consulted a variety of faculty and staff on this decision. They also brought the recommendation to change the criteria to the admissions and scholarship committee, and they supported this idea.

Waldstein said Wartburg will test the change over the next few years to see if it has drawn more students to campus.

Last year, 410 high school students attended the Regents Scholarship days.

"We always want more students to come to the scholarship days," said Waldstein. "A large number of these schol-

arship participants become students at Wartburg College."

Students are rated by their GPA, ACT/SAT score, class rank and an interview and essay during Regents Scholarship weekend at Wartburg.

The scholarships are given at different levels. Last year, scholarship amounts ranged from \$5,000 to \$12,000.

When compared with ACT score and class rank, a student's high school GPA is the best indicator and predictor of their success in college, said Waldstein. This change will improve and strengthen the academic profile of the incoming class.

TRUMPET

Editorial

Poor written skills create unreadable e-mails

In the age of e-mail and instant messages, a whole new language has been introduced for computer users. Phrases like lol (laugh out loud), brb (be right back), ttyl (talk to you later), tmi (too much information) and others are becoming commonplace in written communication.

But with this new language also comes the neglect for the old standards of proper English spelling, punctuation and grammar. While writing a quick e-mail, capitalization is forgotten, periods are omitted and words are spelled how we say them (gonna, gotta, u, r). In people's haste they ignore the rules of the language that binds us together.

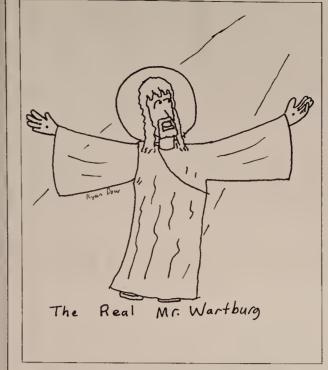
Why do people do this? Is it faster to disregard the "shift" button on a keyboard, even though it's something we've all been taught to do since our first typing lesson? Or to forget about the spell check tool, even though a spelling error can completely change the meaning of a sentence?

E-mail is a faster way to send a letter to someone. It wouldn't be acceptable to

send a letter without capitalization or punctuation through conventional mail, so the use of technology should not make a difference. In fact, maybe e-mail programs should steal some technological advances from Microsoft Word—if you forget to capitalize the beginning of a sentence, or misspell a common word, it corrects it automatically.

A letter should be written to match the tone one wants to convey, whether personally or professionally. It's understandable that friends may e-mail each other in a slang manner because of the personal basis they are on. However, when the receiver is not used to that style, it is rude, tiresome to read, and does not communicate ideas clearly. Writers guilty of these e-mails also may not realize how much they are insulting their own intelligence.

Even in this age of modern technology, it is in poor taste to overlook proper English. Take the time to spell check and capitalize, for the sake of readability and common courtesy.



Celebrate the dream all year

By TIM ELDRIDGE Columnist



would like to thank all those responsible for organizing this

year's Martin Luther King, celebration. Wartburg students, we should be proud that our institution has decided to make such an effort to celebrate one of America's greatest civil rights leaders. I'd especially like to thank the faculty and administration for giving us the opportunity to recognize Dr. King in such an involved manner. I sincerely hope that this year's celebration will become a Wartburg tradition for years to come.

Too often, however, we make an effort to educate ourselves about American race relations for only a short period, be it MLK Jr. Day or Black History Month, etc. A malignant racial divide infects our society, and it must be treated on a daily basis, not a seasonal one. From my point of view, it's easy for us (whites) to ignore or forget about America's race problem, because it simply doesn't confront us on a daily basis. In fact, many of us don't even associate our skin color as part of our personal identity. However, the millions of non-white citizens living in America cannot escape or ignore America's race problem because, unlike whites, they are constantly reminded of it: be it from a store clerk's suspicious stare, being the first employee laid off after years of loyal service or witnessing the poverty and crime that victimizes so many of their fellow Americans of the same skin color.

America's race problem requires deliberate social

and political action in order to be solved. This will only be achieved through sustained effort and cooperation from white America because, like it or not, whites overwhelmingly hold the power in this country.

However, white Americans must first understand the nature of America's race problem before they can address it—something that will not occur without communication with those most affected by this crisis. Whites, myself included, are quite ignorant about what it means to be a minority in America. The same may be true of nonwhites towards whites, but I can't speak for them. The simple truth is that all of us, even the most racially conscious person, retains certain prejudices and stereotypes about members of another race. While there are many varying causes of these prejudices, the all-encompassing reason is igno-

We need honest, frank dialogue between the races in order to deal with this ignorance, which is the motivation behind organizing the race dialogues. From experience, I can say that a race dialogue can be an amazingly rewarding experience once an environment that encourages open and personal participation is created. We haven't really achieved that yet this year, mostly due to time constraints and the formats chosen, but I'm confident we will in the future sessions. Let's keep Dr. King's dream alive all year long. I encourage everyone to attend the upcoming race dialogues. If you come with an open mind and a willingness to share your feelings, you may find yourself learning more from your fellow students in one hour of honest discussion than an entire four years of college.

THE WARTBURG TRUMPET

Editor-in-Chief Jordan Drackley Managing Editor

Ben Shanno Photo Editor Heidi Tiedt

News Editor Emily Block

Features Editor Amy Wineinger Sports Editor Joshua Smothers

Layout Assistant
Rachel Dvorak

Senior Writers Becca Andersen Kacy Burg Katie Hartman

Sports Writers Corey Arndt Joe Hughes Lance Ridpath

Photographers
Rob Giltner
Beth Hood
Adam Roberts
Andy Thompson
Erin Tracy

Cartoonist Ryan Dow

Advertising Kris Yeager and The Tower Agency

Copy Editors Kenza Bemis Helen Severe

Online Editor Jessica Ellingson Distribution Cassie Ringsdorf

> **Advis**er *Lil Junas*

PUBLICATION
CALENDAR
The Trumpet is published
every Monday of
Wartburg's 2001-02
calendar year except
Sept. 10, Oct. 29, Nov. 26,
Dec. 10, Jan. 7, March 4,
March 11 and April 1.

DISCLAIMER
Views expressed on this
page are those of the
editorial board and not
necessarily those of the
administration, faculty or
staff of Wartburg College.

TRUMPET OBJECTIVES
The Trumpet was
founded in 1906 as the
Wartburg Quarterly. It is
committed to accurate, fair
and comprehensive
coverage of campus events
and issues that affect the
Wartburg community.

Trumpet Letter Policy

Letters to the editor are subject to editing without changing the meaning of the letter. Authors will not be notified of changes prior to publishing. Letters must be signed, fewer than 200 words, submitted by 5 p.m. Thursday and related to current issues involving the Wartburg community. Letters may be sent to the Communication Arts office or e-mailed to trumpet@wartburg.edu. Please type "Letter to the

ADVERTISING
Advertising deadline is the
Wednesday prior to date
of publication at 5 p.m.

Editor" as the subject line.

All publication is at the

discretion of the Editor.

POSTMASTER
Please send address
correction to The Trumpet,
Wartburg College, 100
Wartburg Blvd., Waverly,
1A, 50677. Offices located in
McElroy Communication
Arts Center, (319) 352-8289.
Mail subscription rate:
\$25.00 annually. Periodical
class postage paid at
Waverly, 1A, 50677.

Letters to the Editor

To the Editor:

As Wartburg's Faculty Athletics Representatives to the Iowa Conference and the NCAA, we are writing to say thank you to the Wartburg student body for the fine sportsmanship displayed at the Luther basketball games Jan. 19.

The sea of orange T-shirts, devoid of tasteless slogans, was a joy to behold. At the conference and national levels, FARs frequently lament rude fan behavior. We are proud when Wartburg goes against that trend.

Thank you for supporting our teams so enthusiastically and positively!
Jill Gremmels
Todd Reiher

To the Editor:

I would like to formally apologize to the student body, faculty and all who were in attendance of the Mr. Wartburg pageant. As many noticed, the song that I used for background music during my talent contained some profanity. I wanted everyone to know that it was completely unintentional. What happened was this: I downloaded my songs off of the Internet and in the hustle of preparation, I neglected to check the entire song, thinking that it was the same version off of the album. The song itself is completely appropriate, but I apparently downloaded a live performance in which some offensive language was inserted into a small break in the song. I completely apologize to everyone who was offended. Thank you for understanding.

Chris Tripolino

Forget reality shows



By STEVEN C. MURRAY
Columnist

Here's the scenario. You just got done with your final class of the day. Now it's time to go back to your room, eat some junk food, check the e-mail and slack off.

You reach for the remote control. It just happens to be on TNT, which is showing bad movies continuously for the next three days. But you want to know what else is on. You go to Channel 5: the TV Guide channel. It turns out that there isn't anything really worth watching on until after supper. You then come back from the ever-so-tasty beef ravioli at the caf, expecting something of note to be on the television.

"The Chair?" "The Weakest Link?" "The Amazing Race?" "Big Brother 2?" "Survivor 3?" You mean they've had three series of that stupid show? Cripes. All of these shows and more can be found on the good old standard networks ABC, CBS and NBC. Of course, these barely brush the top of the insanely ridiculous list. For the height of all stupidity, we must turn to one network only—FOX.

There are some absolutely ludicrous television programs being broadcast on the key three networks today, but only on FOX can you find the reality television hall of shame. "Love Cruise: The Maiden Voyage," "Temptation Island," "Who Wants to Be a Princess?" and, the No. 1 smash hit "Who Wants to Marry a Multi-Millionaire?" Hasn't FOX learned its lesson? I think that they should begin work on "Who Wants to

be a FOX Executive Producer?" It seems that any ordinary jerk could be better than whoever is currently running the show. The latest chapter in their endeavors of silly programming, although not necessarily 'reality' based, has just started recently—"The Chamber."

"The Chamber" has got to be one of the most ridiculous "let's-win-a-lot-of-money" quiz shows ever. Contestants sign a release form, climb into this big weird time-capsule looking thing (hence 'the chamber'), get strapped down to a chair, and then get blasted with hot air or cold air along with 'flames' or 'water' (respectively), depending on their personal preference. The goal is to answer a certain number of questions in an allotted time. I think this show is incredibly stupid, mainly because of the conditions under which these contestants are putting themselves.

Personally, I blame the majority of all this reality and fast-money crap television on three shows. For the reality side: CBS's "Survivor" and MTV's "Real World." For fast money: ABC's "Who Wants to Be a Millionaire."

Unfortunately, we are still left with one question: Where will it all end? (And will it end?) One might venture to say that this is 'just a fad' and that 'this too shall pass,' but Millionaire has been on in the States since 1999, and it's still going. "Real World" has been on air since 1992.

With the numbers and ratings that all of these shows receive, it doesn't look as if the junk television is going to subside anytime soon. So in the meantime, enjoy the senseless hogwash and try to think happy thoughts. Remember...it could be worse.

Senate budget, ROTC to be discussed at leadership dinner

By JORDAN DRACKLEY Editor-in-Chief

The next leadership issues dinner will cover some topics that Wartburg students may feel uninformed about.

The dinner and discussion, organized by the Leadership Subcommittee (LES), will be Thursday at 6 p.m. in the Castle Room. The event will be led entirely by Student Senate members, focusing on the ongoing ROTC debate and Senate's new budg-

"We also broadened the meeting to include how to motivate members in organiza-

tions and how to get money from Senate. A lot of organizations have money allotted to them but don't know how to spend it," said Kelly Sjurseth, director of campus programming. "I think it's important for student leaders and their organizations for professional development."

The topic ideas were student-initiated.

"Student Senate was more than willing to present," said Matt McNamara, student body president. "We wanted to have a meeting with student organization leaders anyway because we've allotted money to a lot of people, and they weren't using it. I also thought we could inform student leaders what's going on with ROTC and if and how there's a future for it."

McNamara said the discussion will help inform the campus of what Senate has been

"Although everybody can't be there, it's beneficial for the student body because other leaders will find out what Student Senate has been up to this year," he said.

A Senate executive member or committee chair will sit at each table to help facilitate the discussion. McNamara and junior Tara Penna, academic ombudsperson, will discuss

Senate's decision about ROTC to begin the dinner. Junior Nathan Eberline, treasurer, will then present information about the budget.

"The people attending the dinner will represent a wide array of leaders," McNamara. "Senate diverse-it's good to have other diverse groups give feed-

All students in Dr. Fred Waldstein's leadership classes, student organization leaders, their advisers and LES members are invited to attend, but any other student wishing to participate may contact Kathy Dreesman at Ext. 8527.

Spirit Creek returns for campus concert

Spirit Creek is returning to the campus Friday. ETK is sponsoring this event, which will be held in Players Theatre at

This band has caught the attention of many in the music industry. Spirit Creek was selected out of 5,300 bands nationwide as the Online Music Awards "Best Unsigned Artist in America." They were also chosen as MTV Online's "Band to watch in the year 2000."

They sold over 3,000 copies of their first album and have performed with 27 national acts, including Creed, 3 Doors Down, Nickelback and Bush.

Spirit Creek has become a popular requested band to perform at many colleges. In a year and a half they performed on over 40 campuses, becoming one of the most sought-after acts.

The band members include Doug Schoeneck, lead vocals and rhythm guitar; Drew Ingle, lead guitar and backing vocals; Curt Kratowicz, drums; John Waldron, bass guitar; and Seth Bauer, keyboard and piano.

For more information about Spirit Creek visit the band's Web site at www.spiritcreek.net.



Photo courtesy spiritcreek.net

Dance the **Knight away**

By RACHEL DVORAK Layout Assistant

The Volunteer Action Center (VAC) is sponsoring "Dancin' the Knight Away," the second annual MDA Dance Marathon, Friday, Feb. 22 to raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. The dance will be held from 8 p.m. to midnight in Players

MDA helps groups across the country organize dance marathons to benefit families affected by one of over 40 neuromuscular diseases.

Suzanne Piel, one of the VAC student leaders, said the dance marathon will include much more than just dancing. The VAC will provide entertainment, snacks, games and a drawing for prizes. The dance will also feature the Wartburg dance team and a DJ, Digital Productions, sponsored by ETK

According to Piel, the VAC raised \$1,000 for MDA last year, and their goal is to raise \$1,500 this year. So far they have almost 80 dancers who have pledged money for the event.

'We're here as a resource for volunteer activities," Piel said. The VAC coordinates events like the dance marathon to promote volunteer awareness and raises money for local agencies. They organize the annual Cystic Fibrosis walk and St. Elizabeth's Faire and helped with Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

Anyone interested in raising money for the Dance Marathon should call the VAC office at Ext. 8553, e-mail vac@wartburg.edu or stop by the VAC, located in the Jousting Post.

***Act Now! Guarantee the best spring break prices! South Padre,

Cancun, Jamaica, Bahamas, Acapulco, Florida & Mardi Gras. \$\$\$. Group discounts for 6+.

Call 1-800-838-8203

Reps needed....travel free, earn

www.leisuretours.com

Come Tan With Us Tropical Tanspa Southside of Collegetowne Plaza One block from campus 352-2439 Open 7 days a week! 150 minutes=\$20 300 minutes=\$38



SPRING BREAK with MAZATALAN EXPRESS

Starting at \$399. Air/7 nights hotel/free nightly beer parties/food package/party package/discounts.Call (800) 366-4786 or visit www.mazexp.com

German immigrant's anonymous donations helped establish Wartburg

By BECCA ANDERSEN Senior Writer

Wartburg College often receives generous financial contributions, but perhaps one of the most charitable patrons of Wartburg College was a German immigrant named Friedrich Schack. Unlike his friends Grossmann and Engelbrecht, he did not receive a lot of recognition, but that is how he liked it.

Dr. Ron Matthias, Wartburg College historian, believes that

Schack may have been one of Wartburg's greatest sup-

Schack immigrated to New York City from Germany in 1849. He was unable to find employment in his chosen profession as an engineer, so Schack worked "dry goods" as a cloth importer. After working for a few years, Schack started his own cloth import

company, and with his European connections from home, became very successful. According to Matthias, he became a man of "means and substance."

As he grew older, Schack believed his health was rapidly failing so he sold his share of his business and retired in 1870. Even though he no longer had

his own business to focus on, Schack still remained active in community affairs, was influential in politics and was active with the Wartburg Orphans Home in Mt. Vernon, N.Y.

In 1879, Schack traveled to Iowa and fell in love with the picturesque valley near El Dorado, so he bought land and moved to Iowa in 1882. Schack, who was Lutheran, became the treasurer of the Iowa synod, and since the lowa synod was centered in Waverly at the time, Schack moved here in 1900. According to Matthias, while Schack was treasurer, he became inter-

ested in "the school in Waverly," and this interest began a long and charitable relationship between Schack and Wartburg.

Matthias said that Schack helped pay off the debt on Old Main and supplied all the money for the construction of North Hall. Schack bought and donated land to Wartburg, which includes three square blocks where the Centennial Complex sits as well as land that holds Luther Hall and Players Theatre. He also provided money for lab equipment and supplies.

In 1894, Wartburg College moved to Clinton and Schack was a major donor to that campus. When Wartburg returned to Waverly, Schack continued to give money for buildings including "the portable," which was a temporary classroom built in the early 1920s between Old Main and Founders. Matthias estimates that up to 1945, Schack paid for or donated half of the Wartburg campus.

Later in his life, Schack lived in an apartment in Waverly, and when he died in 1919, his extensive library was donated to Wartburg as well as the small amount of remaining money that had not all ready

been donated to the college.

Even though many donations have been attributed to Schack, Matthias speculates that Schack may have given much more than what is known because most of his donations were anonymous. He was also known for befriending students and giving them money so they could afford to

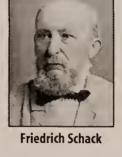
attend Wartburg.

HISTORY

"Schack did not donate for recognition," Matthias

Matthias said although the total monetary contributions from Schack do not measure up to more recent gifts to the college, in the early stages of Wartburg College, Schack's donations were significant and gen-

"Schack was a constant friend and benefactor," Matthias said. "No one else has done as much for the



MOMENT IN



All photos by Erin Tracy/Trumpet

Grief during the college years

By AMY WINEINGER Features Editor

"Grief and loss are universal."

These words spoken by campus Pastor Larry Trachte have the potential to touch the heart of every single student on campus. At some point in a person's life, something is lost. Loss can range from losing a basketball game to ending a relationship with a boy/girlfriend to the death of a loved one.

"All of life is letting go," Trachte added.

If it is true that life is about letting go, then college students must work on this skill because they are at a point where they could be letting go of many things.

"Seniors may be going through some grief now. It may be that it is their last basketball game or last term of classes," said Trachte.

Unfortunately, it is the loss of life that many students at Wartburg have had to grieve about recently. Trachte said that he feels college deaths are sometimes the saddest.

"Life is right in front of them [college students]. They dream big dreams. Life is finally falling into place, and it's cut off," said Trachte.

It is important in the healing process that a grieving person must go to his or her friends. A shoulder to cry on

ORES

or an ear to listen is a valuable tool in coming to terms with a loss. There is a right and a wrong way to help someone deal with a death. Trachte gave some advice about what to do and what not to do.

"Do not tell people how to grieve. Every grieve is unique. It is tempting to talk and say too much. A grieving person does not need words; they need comfort and acceptance. They need empathy, not sympathy," said Trachte. "Do not say stupid things like 'It was God's will.' Then you make God a murderer."

Sometimes a grieving person must be alone, and Trachte said that this process takes time.

"There has to be a rebirth. Grief kills a part of us. It tears out a chunk of our life. Focus on the relationship, not the loss. They [the losses] continue to be a part of our lives. That can never be taken away," said Trachte.

Trachte teaches the Living with Death class at Wartburg but warns that the class does not make an individual immune to grieving.

"I always give a disclaimer at the beginning of the class: There is no inoculation, no shot, so that we never grieve again," he said.

Dealing with a death is always difficult, but during the college years it may be even more so. This is due to the fact that time seems temporarily suspended when the student

is at school. The rest of his or her friends and family are back at home, moving on and dealing, but the student is forced to continue at school without being able to fully cope.

"The world is harsh. People get three days off for a funeral and then they are expected to go back to work or school," said Trachte.

Trachte also pointed out that men and women grieve in two very different ways. Society tells women that they are much more free to let their emotions out. Men, on the other hand, are supposedly not as free to do so. According to Trachte, men grieve by keeping busy with work or working out or even by excessive drinking. By not actually showing their emotions, men may create problems in their existing relationships with others.

Trachte plans to set up a grief support group sometime in the near future. A support group would start the healing process for students who have experienced losses of loved ones in their lives.

No person will ever conquer dealing with a death. Realizing that everyone grieves differently is the beginning to helping yourself or others with a loss. While there is no specific formula for helping a person heal, a friend's presence is surely a good start.



IN HER OWN WORDS

Sophomore Devon Schwindenhammer lost her mother when she was in high school. Here, Devon offers advice on how to cope with a loss and how to help a friend who is suffering.

'I'm sorry' were the words I most often heard. Besides, what else can a friend or classmate say to a 16-year-old who just lost her mother to cancer? The words 'I'm sorry' were not exactly comforting, but I shrugged them off and said 'No need to be, I'm fine.'

The truth was that I was not fine. I told myself not to cry in front of people. I even tried not to cry at the funeral. I was miserable. I was going through a tough age where a mother's presence was important to me. As soon as I was alone, I would break down in tears. I never would have begun to deal with my mother's death if not for my sister and my best friend. They were the only people that I felt comfortable opening up to and crying in front of. It was not what they said, but what they did. Sometimes offering a hug or a shoulder to cry on was all I needed. Many times I did not want to hear anything. I did not want to hear everything was going to be OK, because it was not. I was going to graduate a year and a half later without my mother in the stands. I was going to graduate from college and go through my many life-changing experiences without a mother back home to call and tell everything to.

My sister took that motherly role, and I do not know where I would be today if it were not for her. Even my close bond with my father has helped a lot. I love him more than ever when I think of what he has gone through and still done for me. My best friend let me cry and made me realize how great and important I was to her. My mother may have lived a short life, but she still taught me a lot about strength and faith. I believe I have a lot of her in me.

Remember that you are not the only one who goes through grief. Many people have lost someone they love, whether it is a parent, friend or pet. The best comfort for me was a hug. Even a phone call to that grieving person to let them know that you care is enough. I received phone calls from people I had not heard from in quite some time, but it showed they cared. Reach out to that grieving person. Give them a hug. Let them cry on your shoulder. Drop them a line to let them know you care.

This past New Year's Eve was the third anniversary of my mother's death. Sometimes I get sensitive and sad near the holidays, or I will hear a song or watch a movie that will make me think of her. Knowing I have friends nearby and back home that love me is all the comfort I need. Love is what helps mend a sad, empty or broken heart.





New elections revive Honor Council

By KACY BURG Senior Writer

Student Senate elected Emily Crawford and Katherine Johnson as first-year representatives to Honor Council Thursday.

Junior Tara Penna, Senate academic ombudsperson, said that this election is part of increased efforts to make the Honor Council more active.

"Honor Council hasn't been very active in past years," she said. "Last year we started over from scratch and elected all new members."

Despite last year's elections, new

first-year representatives were not elected during Fall Term, and Penna said that following these mid-year elections, the group hopes to take a more active role.

According to Penna, Honor Council's primary purpose is to promote the Honor Code to students and faculty. The Honor Code is a responsibility students agree to by attending the college. It states, "The Honor Code reminds students of their responsibility to promote academic dishonesty by opposing cheating and plagiarism and reporting dishonest work."

Penna said that members of the Honor Council will be available to speak to classes and groups about the Honor Code if professors or students request it. She said that she hopes this and other efforts by the group will make the Honor Code more respected on campus.

"I think there's definitely a need on campus for an Honor Council," Penna said. "We talk about the Honor Code a lot, but it's not seen as a powerful thing. I think some people see it as a kind of joke."

In addition to promoting the Honor Code, Penna said that the Honor Council can serve as a judiciary body if a faculty member and student request facilitation about an Honor Code question, but she

said that this is not commonly requested.

She said that the Honor Council will probably also be active in revising the Honor Code, which has not been revised

The Honor Council consists of nine members, seven returning from last year and the two elected Thursday. Students apply for the positions and are elected by Student Senate.

Students from each class are elected as freshmen and serve until they graduate, unless they resign or are involved in an Honor Code violation.

CAMPUS/BRIEFS

HOCKEY 101

For those who don't understand the rules of hockey, the Waterloo Blackhawks will participate in Hockey 101 Wednesday at 7 p.m. in Buhr Lounge. The event is sponsored by ETK. Then, Saturday at 7:05 p.m. is college night at the Blackhawks game. Students can buy tickets on campus for \$2, and ETK will pay the remainder of the ticket.

HOMECOMING 2002

Applications for the 2002 Homecoming steering committee will be available at the information desk and outside the student life/res life office. Applications are due Thursday and may be dropped off at the alumni office in the lower level of Luther Hall.

STEVE GREEN IN CONCERT

Steve Green, a contemporary Christian artist, will be in concert Friday, March 15 at 7:30 p.m. in Neumann Auditorium. Tickets are

Electrical

Safety

\$5 for Wartburg students if purchased in advance and \$10 general admission. Tickets can be purchased in the campus ministry office or at the information desk.

MEET THE COMPOSER

As part of a week-long residency with the Wartburg College Concert Bands, Professor Mark Camphouse will speak about his compositions Tuesday at 7 p.m. in the Orchestra Hall. He is presently the director of bands at Radford University in



Green is the universal color for safety. John Myers, director of Wartburg campus security and safety, prints safety tips

It's shocking how so many people are injured by electricity when a little planning and taking safe precautions could prevent an injury. Be safety-wise when dealing with electricity and electrical equipment. Tips

to keep in mind when working with electrici-• Use electrical equipment only when your hands are dry. If an electrical appliance falls into or gets splashed with water, unplug it

before handling it. • Keep electrical equipment clean and free of dust, oil and foreign items such as paper clips and staples. Always unplug electrical equipment before cleaning or servicing it.

• Don't overload circuits or extension cords. In fact, avoid extension cords if possible. If you do use them, make sure they are of sufficient size and offer surge protection. Do not run cords over walkways or run them under carpets or rugs.

 Shocks from computer screens are annoying but not dangerous. To prevent such shocks, use grounding devices, such as a grounded floor mat or a surge protector. When using a cord with a grounding prong, never remove that prong.

 Know the location of fuses or circuit breakers and keep access to them clear.

In the event you are confronted with a victim of an electric shock, immediate assistance is very important. Coming into contact with a powerful electric current can knock a person unconscious. Avoid touching a shock victim until he or she is removed from contact with

the current. Turn off electricity to the equipment or wire in contact with the shocked person if possible. In the event you cannot locate the electrical source or cannot reach it, use a broomstick or other wooden object to move the person away from the live current. Once it is safe to do so, use CPR if necessary. Call 9-911 to get emergency medical assistance.



Ben Shanno/TRUMPET

IOWA LEGEND—Native Iowan Simon Estes performed in the Artist Series concert Monday night as part of the Martin Luther King Day celebration.



- Classroom space shortage
- Waverly's mild winter
- Highlights from the Simpson basketball game

For a complete program schedule, check out www.wartburg.edu/wtv

What do I know about me? I Know I'm informed.

Talk to us in confidence. With confidence.

Planned Parenthood of Greater Iowa

277-3333 • 2520 Melrose Drive, Suite D, Cedar Falls • www.ppgi.org

PART-TIME SKILL DEVELOPMENT COUNSELORS: Are you looking for an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of children and families? Bremwood Lutheran Children's Home in Waverly is seeking self-motivated individuals for part-time positions (10-20 hours per week) of Skill Development Counselor. Work schedule includes 7 a.m. to 9 a.m. Monday through Friday plus additional evening and weekend hours. Starting wage is \$8.50 per hour.

Applicants must be team-oriented and willing to serve as positive role models for at-risk youth and families in a residential treatment setting. Minimum qualifications include junior status (60 college credit hours) toward a degree in social work or a related human service field, or previous experience in working with children and families. For consideration, send a letter of interest and resume to Angie Chaplin, Bremwood Lutheran Services, 106 16th Street SW, P.O. Box 848, Waverly, Iowa 50677. Call 319-352-2630 or e-mail achaplin@bremwood.org with any questions. Bremwood is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



Mr. Wartburg crowned



Above: Seniors Ken Bowers, Jason Sullivan and Mr. Wartburg contestant Bret Haughenbury danced to the music of the Soggy Bottom Boys' "Man of Constant Sorrow" for Haughenbury's talent. He finished second in the contest Tuesday night.

Left: Mr. Wartburg 2002, freshman Chris Hadley, played the accordion for his talent. The Mr. Wartburg contest was sponsored by the Tower Agency.

Beth Hood/TRUMPET



Fred Winters hypnotizes 'daring' students

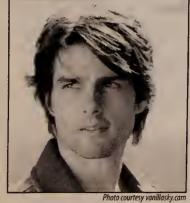


FAR LEFT: Freshman Josh Moen (left) and junior Ryan Halupnick pet the heads of audience members Thursday night while hypnotist Fred Winters had them believing they were at a petting zoo. The event was sponsored by ETK.

LEFT: Sophomores Ashley Caldwell and Kevin Rybowicz huddle together while thinking they were at the movies.

Rob Giltner/TRUMPET

Review



VANILLA SKY

Starring Tom Cruise, Penélope Cruz, Kurt Russell, Cameron Diaz

By BRYAN CLARK Movie Reviewer

I'm sick to death of people calling movies "smart and sexy." I swear I heard that line about thirty or forty times in the last year alone. Every reviewer from Rolling Stone to the New York Times just can't stop saying "this movie is smart and sexy." Come on now—these people have to be more creative than that.

The reason for that little rant is my review for this week, "Vanilla Sky." Now, don't take this as anything against the movie. It's a good flick, but I'm just tired of "smart and sexy." Enough about that, on to the movie.

Tom Cruise has gone weird, folks. It started with Eyes Wide Shut, and it just got weirder. Cruise plays David Aames, a rich playboy owner of a magazine his father founded, who spends his free time partying and sleeping with models. One of his model lovers, Julie Gianni (Cameron Diaz) feels jilted because he found a woman he actually loves named Sofia (Penélope Cruz). Julie lures him into her car and drives them off a bridge. She is killed, and David is severely mangled.

David is accused of killing Julie and lives a secluded life, exiling himself even from Sofia. About halfway through, the movie kicks into confusion overdrive. David is plagued by weird flashbacks and a strange voice in his head. Everything comes to a head in an office building of the future. I can't say much more than that without ruining the surprise, and trust me, you won't see it coming. If you go, and I recommend you do, keep in mind that it's a think-

ing movie. Keep your mind sharp and your eyes on the screen.

I was impressed with the way the movie was written. Being jaded from watching one too many David Lynch movies, I'm not easily surprised by twisty, confusing movies, but this one had me stumped until the very end.

The acting was also quite good. I've found that Tom Cruise can be a bit hit-ormiss, and I'm not very familiar with Penelope Cruz's other work, but they play off each other very well in this movie. I was also pleased to see Jason Lee in a role outside of Kevin Smith's films. He definitely deserves more recognition.

"Vanilla Sky" isn't what you'd expect it to be. It's visually engaging, well-written, well-acted and will definitely keep you guessing. Smart and se...oops.

Knights continue winning streak

By JOSHUA SMOTHERS Sports Editor

Hot shooting led the Wartburg men's basketball squad to two victories this weekend in Knights Gymnasium, defeating Simpson College Saturday 79-71 and Central College Friday 68-63. The Knights (14-4 overall, 10-1 IIAC) won their eighth straight game and 10th in a row in conference play. Wartburg still trails Buena Vista University by one game.

The Knights shot just over 69 percent from behind the arc, nailing 9 of 13 threepointers. Wartburg shot over 58 percent from the field for the game, while the Storm shot just under 39 percent.

A pair of juniors helped the Knights calm the Storm. Forward Jake Olsen and guard Dan Schuknecht tallied 19 points each. To go along with their game highs, Olsen also grabbed seven rebounds, while Schuknecht picked up five steals.

Two other Knights were in double figures as well. Junior forward Mike Pipho was perfect from the field, scoring 13 points in his first game back from an ankle injury. Freshman guard Adam Sanchez put up 11 points in the winning effort.

"Dan played great," said Olsen. "He really stepped it up knowing Mike was not 100 percent."

The Knights raced out to a 14-4 lead early in the game, but Simpson (9-10, 6-5) closed the gap to 24-22 with just over eight minutes left in the opening half. Wartburg proceeded to go on a 17-7 run, though, to close the half.

The visitors rallied numerous times in the second half, cutting the Knights' lead to three (53-50) with just under 12 minutes left, but were never able to take the lead. Clutch free throw shooting and a thunderous dunk by Olsen sealed the victory.

"We just seemed to fall apart in the most crucial times of the game," said Simpson junior forward Matt McCulla. "We didn't execute our game plan as well as we wanted to. It's tough to execute the way you want against a team like Wartburg.

Jesse Harris led the Storm with 15 points and seven rebounds. Jason Snyder added 14 points and McCulla grabbed seven rebounds as well.

Friday night, the Knights downed the Dutch of Central, shooting 60 percent from the field in the opening half and drained seven three-pointers.

Once again, Schuknecht helped lead the charge, scoring 12 points, including three treys. Olsen and Sanchez each chipped in with 11 points, while Olsen also snagged seven rebounds. Senior forward Roger Kobliska added nine points and picked up

The Dutch did all they could to reverse a 42-27 halftime deficit. While the Knights were limited during the second half, hitting only six field goals and shooting a dismal 31.6 percent from the floor, the Dutch shot over 58 percent in the second stanza. However, the Knights responded late with key free throws and a big three-pointer by Schuknecht.

"We knew Central is a scrappy team," said Olsen. "They always fight back into games. Their intensity at the beginning of the half was higher than ours."

Clayton Carson and Tony Polito were in double figures for the Dutch (4-14, 3-8).



Andy Thompson/TRUMPET

ROUNDING THE CORNER—Junior Jake Olsen drives past Central's Kent Johnson Friday. Olsen had 11 points and seven rebounds in the winning effort.

The acrobatic Carson scored 16 points, pulled down six rebounds and dished out three assists. Polito tallied 11 points in the

Wartburg is in action again Friday in Cedar Rapids, taking on the Kohawks from Coe College and Saturday in Mount Vernon against Cornell College. Tip-off for both games is scheduled for 8 p.m.

SIMPSON (71)

Richter 3-5 1-2 9, 8rown 1-5 4-6 6, Harris 4-11 7-9 15, Walker 2-5 0-0 5, 5nyder 6-12 2-3 14, Tiedeman 0-2 0-0 0, 8ogaards 2-7, 0-0 5, Duenser 0-2 0-0 0, Martin 0-0 3-4 3, 8oyd 3-6 1-1 8, McCulla 3-7 0-0 7. Totals 24-63 18-25 71. WARTBURG (79)

Norton 2-4 0-0 5, Olsen 7-11 4-5 19, Kobliska 3-7 0-0 7, Schucknecht 7-9 2-2 19, 5anchez 3-4 4-4 11, Armentrout 0-3 0-0 0, Kincade 0-2 0-0 0, Pipho 5-5 1-2 13, Recker 0-0 2-3 2, Johnson 1-2 1-2 3, Pedersen 0-1 0-0 0. Totals 28-48 14-18

Halftime-Simpson 29, Wartburg 41. Fouled out-none. Rebounds-Simpson 27 (Harris 7, McCulla 7), Wartburg 30 (Olsen 7). Assists–5impson 11 (Walker 3), Wartburg 21. Total fouls-Simpson 17, Wartburg 20.

RECORDS: 5impson (9-10, 7-5 IIAC), Wartburg (14-4, 10-

RANKINGS: Simpson T-4th (IIAC), Wartburg 2nd (IIAC).



Tracksters take second

The Wartburg men's and women's track teams both finished in second place in the UW-La Crosse Quadrangular Saturday.

Host team UW-La Crosse won both the men's and women's title. Wartburg finished ahead of conferece rival Luther who placed third in both men's and women's competi-

Seniors Gideon Salter and Rachel Miller set school records in the men's weight throw (47-03.75) and women's pole vault (8-10.25).

Freshman Missy Buttry won the women's 1500 meters and provisionally qualified for nationals with a time of 4:40.42. The women's distance medley relay won the meet title and provisionally qualified for nationals with a time of 12:26.59.

Senior Erin VanZee (800 meters) and the 4x200 meter relay team also

On the men's side, junior Joe Hughes (5000 meters), senior Shaun McMorris (200 meters) and the 4x200 meter relay took home titles.

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT—The Wartburg track team makes use of the PEC preparing for the UW-La Crosse Quadrangular. The Knights finished second in both men's and women's competition Saturday.

Heidi Tiedt/TRUMPET

Wacky Wednesdays 9 p.m.—11:30 p.m. ● \$6 cover charge

QUARTER MANIA

Shoe rental \$.25 per person Medium pop \$.25 each Hot dogs \$.25 each Tap beer \$.25 12 oz glass (must be 21)



Waverly Bowl 919 4th S.W. 352-4724



\$1.50 CHEESE FRYS - DANCIN'? YOU BET!! - 40¢ HOT WINGS THURSDAY 50¢ FRY NITE \$1.75 BOTTLE SPECIAL 2FER DRINKS THURSDAY

FRIDAY SATURDAY

OPEN FOR LUNCH AT 11:00 50¢ FRY/SANDWICH - 2 TACOS \$2.00 2FERS + \$4.50 PITCHERS 3:30 TO 7:00 \$2.00 DRINKS + \$4.75 PITCHERS 7:00 TO 9:00

WELCOME PARTY PEOPLE! JAY CONNOR'S KARAOKE SHOW 7:00 HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO JULIE MONDAY! BE NICE TO HER, JOE IS IN FLORIDA!

WELCOME W-SR & HUDSON WRESTLING FANS AND PARENTS **PROGRESSIVE** PITCHERS - CAPT'N - STRIPPERS \$2 OFF ALL LARGE PIZZAS

DANCIN'? YOU BET!!! ASK US ABOUT \$3.25 PITCHERS FOR YOUR NEXT PARTY AT JOE'S



SPORTS

January 28, 2002

Women tops in IIAC Jessica Mennen tabbed conference Athlete of the Week

By LANCE RIDPATH Sports Writer

With solid play and a little help from the outside, the Wartburg women's team stands alone atop the Iowa Conference standings. The Knights avenged a pair of earlier



Jessica Mennen

losses to Central and Simpson College by knocking off the Dutch 76-58 Friday and then holding on for an 84-80 triumph over the Storm Saturday.

A win by Buena Vista University over the Storm Friday put the Knights into position to gain a two game advantage in the conference race.

Sophomore forward Jessica Mennen was also named Iowa Conference Female Athlete of the Week Jan. 21. She averaged 17.5 points, 6.5 rebounds and 2 steals

per game in Wartburg's victories over Upper Iowa University Jan. 18 and Luther College Jan. 19.

In the early stages of the game, the Knights took a 12-6 lead on a lay-up by sophomore guard Lisa Rasmusson. Simpson came right back with a 22-11 run of their own.

Trailing 27-32 with a little over six minutes left in the half, the Knights took control of the game, scoring 25 of the last 35 points of the half to take a 49-42 lead at the break.

In the second period, the Storm came back and tied the game at 60-60 apiece with ten minutes to go, but back-to-back lay-ups by junior center Holly Mohs put the Knights back on top, 79-69 late in the game.

With under a minute left, Rasmusson hit five of six shots from the line to ice the game. A comeback by the Storm in the final seconds of the contest fell short, as the Knights held on, 84-80.

The Knights connected on 63 percent of their shots in the first half, including six for nine from behind the arc. Wartburg was also solid from the free throw line. The Knights made more free throws (22) than the Storm attempted (12).

Although Simpson crept back into the game a number of times, the Knights kept their composure.

"We knew, from past experience, that we could hang on," said senior guard Brianne Schoonover fol-Iowing an eight point, six assist performance. "We were pretty confident we could win."

Mohs led the game with 25 points and six rebounds. Mennen scored 15 points while Rasmusson contributed 14 in the winning effort. Junior guard Katie Fox tossed in 16 points while going 3-of-5 from three-point range.

The victory was the women's eighth consecutive win and the 20th conference win in a row at home.

In Friday's game, Central kept it close during the first half. Kelly Foley's jumper with 28 seconds left put the Knights up 32-26 at the half.

and never looked back. A basket by Brianne into first place in the IIAC.

Schoonover put the Knights up, 70-49, with five minutes to go in the game, and the team held on for an impressive 76-58 win.

Holly Mohs led all players with 24 points and eight rebounds. Mennen and Schoonover scored 16 and 12, respectively. Kelly Foley came off the bench to score six points.

Forward Kate Humiston led Central with 18 points, as the Dutch dropped their fifteenth in a row in Knights Gymnasium.

The Knights will try to keep their streak alive as they hit the road and travel to the Cedar Rapids area next weekend. Friday, Wartburg takes on Coe, a team they beat 77-61 at home earlier this month. Saturday they'll hop over to nearby Mt. Vernon to take on the Rams of Cornell College. Both games are slated to

SIMPSON (80)

Stover 9-12 6-6 24, Van Hauen 0-2 0-0 0, Spree 3-9 2-3 8, Egli 2-2 2-3 6, Whitsell 2-7 0-0 6, Van Pelt 5-8 0-0 12, Sonderman 2-4 0-0 5, Schultz 0-0 0-0 0, Beattie 3-4 0-0 6, Pierick 3-6 0-0 7, Capper 1-2 0-0 2, Gustafson 2-7 0-0 4. Totals 32-63 10-12 80.

Mennen 5-8 2-2 15, Mohs 8-13 9-10 25, Rasmusson 5-8 3-4 16, Schoonover 3-5 2-3 8, Medhus 0-1 0-0 2, Johnson 0-1 0-0 0, Reynolds 0-1 0-0 0, Foley 2-3 2-2 6. Totals 28-48

Halftime-5impson 42, Wartburg 49. Fouled out-Egli (5impson). Rebounds–Simpson 25 (5tover 11), Wartburg 29 (Mohs 6, Mennen 5). Assists–Simpson 20 (Pierick 7), Wartburg 21 (Schoonover 6, Fox 6, Rasmusson 6). Total fouls-5 impson 25,

RECORDS: 5impson (14-5, 8-4 IIAC), Wartburg (13-4, 9-2 IIAC).

RANKINGS: 5impson 4th (IIAC), Wartburg 1st (IIAC).



Ben Shanno/TRUMPET

Wartburg came out fired up in the second period, SURVEILLANCE—Junior guard Katie Fox looks for an open teammate Friday night going on a 20-5 run during the first seven minutes against Central College in Knights Gymnasium. The Knights won 76-58, and moved

Grapplers claim IIAC dual title

By JOE HUGHES Sports Writer

The second-ranked Wartburg wrestlers outscored their opponents 134-10 Saturday as they won the Iowa Conference Dual Tournament in Pella. Wartburg's Iowa Conference dual winning streak was extended to 65.

The Knights beat host Central College in the championship round 34-7, Cornell College in the semifinals 43-3, and the University of Dubuque in the first round 57-0.

Coach Miller changed the lineup for each dual, giving many different wrestlers the opportunity to compete.

"We expected [to win this tournament] because we've set the standard before, and we just went out and did it," said senior Kevin Powell.

Powell earned a major decision against Central at 164 lbs., and pinned his Cornell opponent in 37 seconds.

Junior heavyweight LeRoy Gardner III picked up 16 points for the team. Gardner won 12-3 over Pete Elmhorst of Dubuque before pinning Brian Benight of Cornell and Matt Hall of Central in the semifinals and finals.

Freshman Jeff Rierson asserted himself as a force to be reckoned with as he won two matches and accepted a forfeit at 133.

At 197, sophomore Alain Djoumessi won 10-4 and 10-5 in the semifinals and finals respectively after pinning his Dubuque opponent in the first round.

Junior Sonny Alvarez (184) pinned Jordan Lau of Cornell in 1:33 before earning the decision over Mark Fuchtman of Central in the finals 13-8.

The grapplers are in action next at the Paul Solberg Invitational in Decorah Saturday.

RANTS AND RAVES with The Guy

More or Less ...



Joshua Smothers Sports Editor

In response to the near-threats I received concerning my last column: No, the comments about the chest-thumping football players were not aimed directly toward any Wartburger. They were about the overpaid NFL bullies who would strap me to a gurney and castrate me if

they knew I was writing so badly of them.

But anyway, there was far more on my mind than was allowed to fit into the last column, so I obviously need to fill this one with more issues I want to see resolved. Surely my demands will probably not be met. In fact, the only way I could change the things I want is if I could somehow lure MLB commissioner Bud Selig into loaning me a couple million. And then cover it up. The equivalent of a snowball's chance in hell.

We need more years in baseball like 2001. The retirements of Cal Ripken, Jr., Tony Gwynn and Mark McGwire allow us to appreciate the great players who honestly played for the love of the game. Their excellence and determination seems uncommon in this money-driven sport ... I mean busi-

We need less rioting. Why does it always have to be after the Stanley or World Cup? The NHL machismo and soccer madness seems to rub off throughout the heart of their fans after winning. I never knew glory and pride in some sports had to come with such ridiculously violent baggage.

We need less Terry Bradshaw. His 10-10-220 commercials are a prime example of what happens in the future to legendary quarterbacks who take a few too many knocks to the head in their day. At least the Steelers played well this year.

We need more tennis vixens and less obnoxious habits. I'm sorry, but if I have to listen to Monica Seles grunt each and every time she swings her racket, then I want to see more players with the glamour of, who else, Anna Kournikova. I wonder if Adidas is more proud of promoting mini tennis skirts or a less-than-mediocre tennis player. I recently began to support human cloning

We need more athletes with tattoos. All players should be required to prove themselves worthy of the millions with at least one tattoo of choice. I am getting one next month. The NBA only has to pick up the phone and call. They have my number.

We need less fathers like Felipe de Jesus Almonte, the father of 14-year-old Danny Almonte, who falsified birth documents to make Danny appear only 12 so he could play Little League baseball. Ridiculous.

We need more fathers like Rick Reilly, who is also the greatest sport columnist alive. Reilly once told Michael Jordan and Charles Barkley he couldn't play a round of golf with them at their request because he had already promised his son he would take him out to eat for his birthday. An action full of love or stupidity? You make the call.

We need more scripted scuffles like the Mike Tyson and Lennox Lewis melee during their press conference promoting the muchanticipated fight. I just feel sorry for the unfortunate guy in the background that was thumped in the head with a plastic water bottle. Now that was hilarious.

I have to call Mr. Selig this week to see where I stand on resolving my issues concerning sports and about that loan.